

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 03005 011058Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 /057 W
-----011059Z 086728 /21

R 010800Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2472
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 3005

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AF, IR, PFOR
SUBJ: AFGHAN-IRANIAN RELATIONS: NAIM TO TEHRAN

1. FOREIGN MINISTER WAHEED ABDULLAH INFORMED ME EVENING APRIL 30 THAT MOHAMMAD NAIM, PRESIDENT DAOUD'S BROTHER, WILL GO TO TEHRAN ON MAY 6 TO HAVE A MEETING AND PRIVATE LUNCH WITH THE SHAH ON MAY 7. ABDULLAH SAID THAT NAIM WILL ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE IF THE IRANIANS WILL GO AHEAD WITH THEIR AID COMMITMENTS TO AFGHANISTAN. AS FOR THE HELMAND WATERS, ABDULLAH REPEATED THE STANDARD AFGHAN POSITION THAT IRAN WILL GET THE AMOUNT OF WATER SPECIFIED IN THE AS-YET-UNRATIFIED TREATY AND THAT THE PROSPECTIVE KAMAL KHAN DAM IN AFGHAN TERRITORY IS A MATTER FOR AFGHAN DECISION ALONE.

2. ABDULLAH SAID HE HIMSELF WILL DEPART KABUL MAY 13 ENROUTE TO THE ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING WHICH TAKES PLACE IN LIBYA BEGINNING MAY 16. IF NAIM IS UNSUCCESSFUL IN LOOSENING THE SHAH'S PURSE STRINGS, ABDULLAH PLANS TO RETURN HOME VIA SAUDI ARABIA AND OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES WHERE HE WOULD HOPE TO FIND THE FINANCING FOR THE PROJECTS IRAN WOULD BE ABANDONING.

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PAGE 02 KABUL 03005 011058Z

3. ABDULLAH SAID THAT WHATEVER THE RESULTS OF NAIM'S TALKS WITH THE SHAH, AFGHANISTAN WILL ATTEMPT TO MAINTAIN CLOSE RELATIONS WITH IRAN. EVENTS IN PAKISTAN, HE SAID, MAKE GOOD AFGHAN-IRANIAN TIES EVEN MORE IMPORTANT.

4. COMMENT: THIS IS A FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENT BECAUSE NAIM IS THE MOST STATEMANLIKE OF ALL OF DAOUD'S ADVISORS. BUT,

AS WE HAVE SUGGESTED IN EARLIER MESSAGES, THE UNDERLYING
PROBLEMS OF FACE, PRIDE, AND MACHISMO WHICH PLAGUE AFGHAN-
IRANIAN RELATIONS WILL NOT BE EASILY OVERCOME.

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 01-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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